

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08

FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9909

UNCLAS KINGSTON 2148

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EINV, JM

SUBJECT: JAMAICA GETS CANADIAN \$4.5 MILLION LOAN

FOR BUYING RICE FROM GUYANA

1. THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CIDA) HAS CONTRACTED TO PURCHASE 10,000 METRIC TONS OF RICE FROM GUYANA FOR DIRECT DELIVERY TO JAMAICA. THE ARRANGEMENT IS IN THE FORM OF A CANADIAN \$4.5 MILLION LOAN TO JAMAICA UNDER WHICH GUYANA, FACING SERIOUS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS, WILL RECEIVE THIS AMOUNT IN HARD CURRENCY.

2. THE LOAN WILL ENABLE JAMAICA TO MAINTAIN HER REGULAR MONTHLY PURCHASE OF RICE FROM GUYANA UNDER THIS CONTRACT. SO FAR, 1,681 TONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED UNDER THIS LOAN, AND THE CIDA HAS HANDED OVER TO THE GUYANA MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE A CHECK FOR CAN.\$755.865. THE REMAINDER OF THE CONSIGNMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE DELIVERED BY MARCH 31. THIS CONTRACT IS PART OF A WIDER FOOD PACKAGE DEAL BETWEEN JAMAICA AND CANADA AND IS THE OUTCOME OF THE REVIEW OF THE CANADIAN-WEST INDIES TRADE AGREEMENT WHICH TOOK PLACE LAST YEAR.

3. THE ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS A UNIQUE

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TRILATERAL CONTRACT AS IT IS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER ITS CIDA ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HAS UNDERTAKEN TO PURCHASE A SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITY OF FOODSTUFFS OR OTHER COMMODITY FROM ONE CARIBBEAN COUNTRY FOR DELIVERY TO ANOTHER.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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